



Evenly Distributing Lime and Fertilizer by Hand

PURPOSE:

To describe a way for evenly distributing lime or fertilizer or other materials.

METHOD:

Divide the area to be treated into 1,000 square foot segments commonly referred to as units.

Apply the predetermined unit rate of lime, fertilizer or other material to each unit area.

LAYOUT UNIT AREAS ON THE LAND:

Divide 1000 square feet by a desired length in feet to arrive at the width in feet. Example: where a desired length in one direction is 50 feet, divide 1000 ft.² by 50 ft. to obtain a width dimension of 20 ft. Where the length in one direction is 90 ft., divide 1000 ft.² by 90 ft. to arrive at a width of 11.1 ft.

Mark the corners with flags, stakes or other suitable material.

DETERMINE THE AMOUNTS OF LIME, FERTILIZER OR OTHER MATERIAL TO BE APPLIED TO EACH UNIT AREA:

Many recommendations are given as so many lbs. or tons per acre.

There are 43,560 square feet in an acre or 43.56 units (1000 ft.²) per acre. (43,560 /1000). **ALWAYS DIVIDE THE RECOMMENDED ACRE RATE BY 43.56 TO ARRIVE AT THE UNIT RATE.**

(over)

Example (1): Where the recommended rate is two tons (4,000 lbs.) of lime per acre, divide 4000 lbs. by 43.56 to arrive at 91.8 lbs. per unit area of 1000 ft². Since lime can be purchased in 50 lb. bags, it is convenient to place two bags in each unit area for spreading. The actual rate per acre in this case will be 43.56 x 100 lbs. or 4,356 lbs.

Example (2): Where the recommended rate is 500 lbs. of fertilizer per acre, divide 500 lbs. by 43.56 to arrive at 11.5 lbs. of fertilizer per unit area (1000 ft.²).

APPLICATION OF MATERIALS:

Weigh the recommended amount of material into a bucket or pail and plainly mark the inside of the pail at the surface of the material. Spread the material as uniformly as possible on a unit area. Refill the pail to the previously marked line on the inside wall of the pail and spread on the next unit. Continue until all units are covered.

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